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Title: Issue regarding the resolution passed by the West Bengal State Assembly providing relaxation in payment of Central taxes and duties for establishment of new industries in North Bengal.

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (JALPAIGURI): Sir, in the last week of November, 2006, the West Bengal State Assembly has unanimously passed a Resolution demanding tax holidays for establishing new industries in North Bengal as presently being enjoyed by the States of Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Uttranchal. Earlier, the State of Assam and the other North-Eastern States are enjoying the benefits of relaxation of excise duties. Unfortunately, no major industry has been established in those areas.

Considering the industrial backwardness of North Bengal, I demand that the benefits of relaxation of Central tax and excise duties may be extended for establishment of new industries in North Bengal.